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1972/10/30

October 30, 1972

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...
ttached are suggested Talking Points
concerning the Vietnam negotiations.

Henry A. Kissinger

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10/30/72

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

residential Talking Points

he Need for the Right Agreement

ficant breakthrough in the negotiations on
ment, consistent with the terms that we have always set for ourselves, is now within our grasp.

-- The task now is to finish the final details and make sure the agreement produces a real peace and not an uneasy armistice. We will not be stampeded into signing until we are completely satisfied.

-- Very significant progress has been made on the major issues. We can finish within weeks assuming there is mutual good will.

-- The military provisions of the draft agreement are fully within the framework that I outlined in my May 8 speech: an internationally supervised ceasefire, and all our prisoners returned in exchange for our withdrawal.

-- The political provisions fully reflect our basic principle that the South Vietnamese determine their own future. The communists have dropped their demands for Thieu's resignation and a coalition government. The agreement is consistent with the US-GVN proposal of January 27, 1972. Indeed, that plan specified presidential elections within six months, preceded by Thieu's resignation, while the current agreement leaves the timing and nature and level of the elections to the South Vietnamese themselves, and does not provide for resignation. The National Council, stipulated in the current agreement, is similar to the mixed electoral commission that we proposed in January.

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10/30/72

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

Presidential Talking Points

Significant Breakthrough and the Need for the Right Agreement

-- We have made a significant breakthrough in the negotiations on Vietnam. An honorable settlement, consistent with the terms that we have always set for ourselves, is now within our grasp.

-- The task now is to finish the final details and make sure the agreement produces a real peace and not an uneasy armistice. We will not be stampeded into signing until we are completely satisfied.

-- Very significant progress has been made on the major issues. We can finish within weeks assuming there is mutual good will.

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By Cwill NARS Date 3/6/00